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DISCOVER HALF DAY & FULL DAY ADVENTURES

Half Day Adventure

- VIEW WILDLIFE INCLUDING ELK
- TOUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS ALONG ENTRANCE ROAD
- VISIT THE PALMER HOUSE & EXHIBIT

Optional Full Day Extensions

- LITTLE CATALOOCHEE TRAIL HIKE TO VARIOUS HISTORIC HOMES AND LITTLE CATALOOCHEE CHURCH AND CEMETERY
- ROUGH FORK TRAIL HIKE TO THE WOODY HOUSE



Directions (see map on reverse): From the Bethea Welcome Center, exit the gate and turn right onto highway 19 S. In 2.6 miles (just beyond 2nd Dollar General), turn right onto highway 276 N. In 5.7 miles, just before reaching the 40 on-ramp, turn left onto Cove Creek Road and follow signs 11 miles into Cataloochee valley. The road will become gravel and very narrow—proceed with caution. Once you enter the gate for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the road will once again be paved. The visitor kiosk on the left will offer auto tour information as well as postings that may affect availability of some hiking trails.

Welcome to Cataloochee Valley

Once home to the largest settlement in the Smoky Mountains, Cataloochee Valley's rich farmlands and scattered historic buildings are now the realm of native elk, one of the most successful conservation efforts of the National Park Service. Thousands of elk once roamed the mountainous

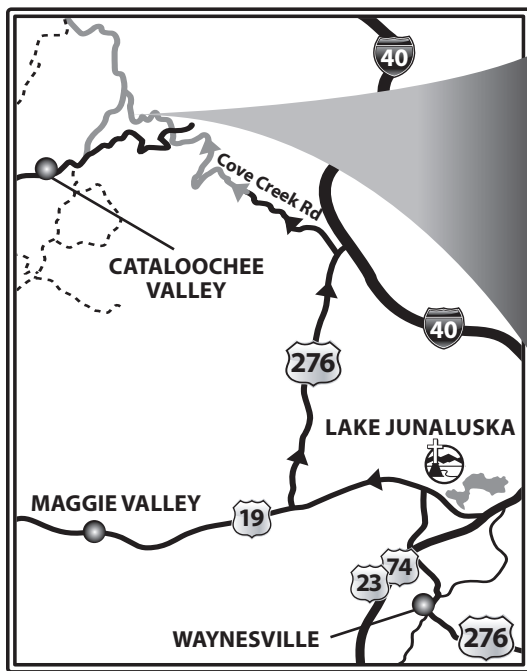


region along the North Carolina-Tennessee border, where peaks rise between 3,000 and 6,000 feet, but were hunted to extinction by the mid-1800s. The herds that now roam this fertile valley began with only 25 elk in 2001 and currently number in the hundreds.

Adventure Tips

- Portions of the road to Cataloochee are narrow and curvy—allow at least 45 minutes travel time each way.
- Peak viewing times for elk are the two hours after sunrise and the two hours prior to sunset.
- Do not approach the elk, especially during autumn's mating season when males trumpet and spar for dominance.

The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body.

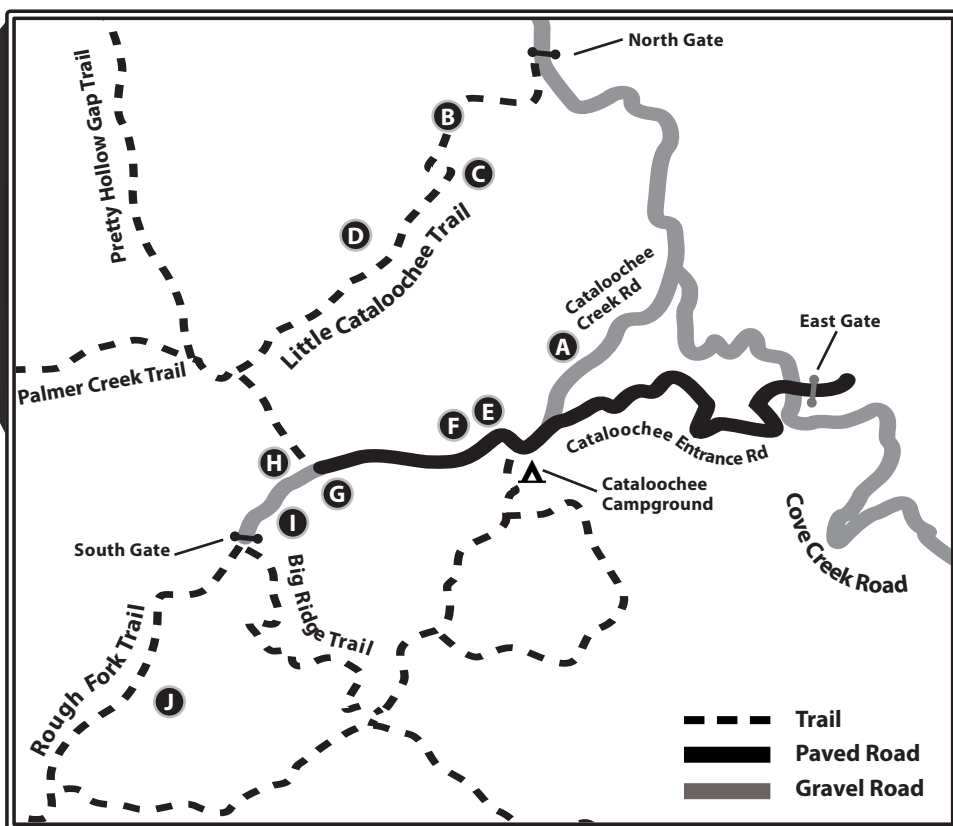


Begin your tour with a visit to the **A Palmer House**. Turn right onto Cataloochee Creek Road (gravel) across from **Cataloochee Campground**. Hard luck drove the Palmer family to this area in 1848, but they prospered greatly along with other apple growers in the valley. Be sure to tour the barn, blacksmith shop, and spring house—a tiny building constructed over the cold mountain stream and used for storing dairy and meat. The post office was housed in a room on the first floor.

Optional Little Cataloochee Trail hike:

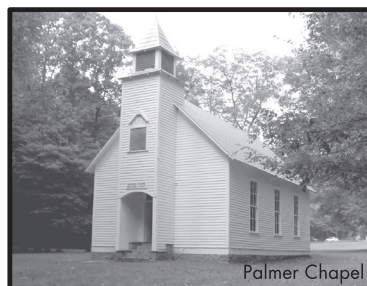
From the **A Palmer House** continue north on the gravel road until you reach the parking area near the north gate. Look for signs indicating the *Little Cataloochee Trail*. Approximately one mile down this well-worn path is **B Hannah Cabin**, constructed with logs from on site. (Look for the brick chimney, which was a sign of affluence in the valley.) Less than a mile beyond this is the **G Little Cataloochee Church** and cemetery, where descendants of founding families still gather once a year. Visitors can ring the original bell. The trail continues to **D Cook Cabin**, featuring the remains of an apple house. Return on the same hiking route, and drive back south on Cataloochee Creek Road, passing the **A Palmer House**.

Return to the paved entrance road and turn right toward the **E Will Messer Barn** and **F ranger station**. The Barn was built in 1900 and is typical of outbuildings throughout the valley. When the road again becomes gravel, **G Palmer**



Chapel will be on your left. In the late 19th century, this Methodist Episcopal Church offered sermons once a month from circuit riding preachers; at other times the church served as a community center. On your right is the **H Beech Grove School** (estab. 1901), where lessons were offered November-January, when children weren't needed to help on family farms. If enough families subscribed to the school, lessons could extend through March. Less than a mile further down the road is the **I Caldwell House**, the "modern" weatherboard home Hiram Caldwell built in 1906 to replace the family's original log cabin.

Optional *Rough Fork Trail hike*: Continue one mile further and park near the south gate at the road's end. Enter the trailhead for *Rough Fork Trail* and enjoy an easy walk to the **J Woody House**, a family home turned tourist attraction. Upon inheriting the family log cabin in 1901, Steve Woody added numerous additions to the original structure in order to house his eight children. As his offspring moved away to start their own families, Woody stocked his streams with rainbow trout and offered lodgings to fishermen and tourists. Boarders slept in the house and barn, but all were welcomed to the family table at meal times. Return to your car via the same walking trail.



Drive back up the gravel road past **G Palmer Chapel** and turn right onto the paved road. Follow this road past the **F ranger station** as you exit the park and return to Lake Junaluska.